

WEDDINGS AND NEXT SEASON'S ACTIVITIES INTEREST SOCIETY

Even so far in advance as the present time it is necessary to fix the dates for some of the dances of next season, particularly those of the subscription dances which are given each winter for debutantes and the younger element of society. It has been considered best to keep on making social arrangements for next season because the lack of entertainments would not doubt bring hardships to many. With the dates of these dances fixed there should be no clashing with private entertainments, and it rarely happens that a private entertainment of any importance is given on the same night as one of the subscription dances, which mean much to debutantes.

The Junior Assemblies, which have had three successful seasons, will be held at Sherry's on December 4, January 11 and February 1. These dances are the successors to the Junior Cotillions which for many years were held under the management of Mrs. Arthur Murray Dodge. At the first of the series, which will be held on a Tuesday, there will be present the leading debutantes of the winter and those of last year. The committee in charge for the coming season will consist of Mrs. Richard C. Colt, Mrs. Ernesto G. Fabbri, Mrs. C. Ledyard Blair, Mrs. Robert P. Huntington, Mrs. Walter Phelps Bliss, Mrs. Walter B. James, Mrs. Joseph W. Burden and Mrs. Edwin D. Morgan.

Next to the assemblies will come the Three Sherry Dances, which are for older girls and some of the young married people. The committee as for several years will include Mrs. B. Ogden Chisolm, Mrs. J. Herbert Johnson and Mrs. Edward S. Knapp, and associated with them as patronesses are Misses John E. Alexander, Russell H. Hoadley, Jr., Charles Merrill Chapin, Columbus O'Donnell Iselin, Henry E. Coe, Bradish Johnson, Richard C. Colt, Harry Kearsarge Knapp, Carl A. De Gersdorff, Pierre Mall and Walter G. Calkman. The dances will be held at Sherry's on Friday nights, December 7 and 28 and January 18.

For the girls who will not be introduced to society before another two years or so there will be the Colony Dances and the Metropolitan Dances, which are given during the holidays from school and college. The Colony Dances were instituted years ago and were first held in the Colony Club, which then was in Madison avenue, and for two winters have been given in the new club further up in Park avenue. For the coming season a change has been made and the dances, two in number, will take place at the Ritz-Carlton on December 28 and March 16. The patronesses for the coming season will be Misses Winthrop Burr, Walter B. James, Amory S. Carratt, Oliver G. Jennings, J. Magee Ellsworth, Henry Hutton London, J. Horace Harding and Robert L. Stevens.

The Metropolitan Dances, formerly held in the ladies' annex of the Metropolitan Club, outgrew those quarters and for several years they have been held at Sherry's, and the number of subscribers has been sufficient to call into use the larger ballroom of the establishment. The committee for the coming season will number Mrs. Walter B. James, Mrs. Lewis S. Thompson, Mrs. Richard Trimble, Mrs. Samuel Auchmuty Tucker and Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt. Dates for private dances will be announced much later.

Summer plans are being discussed and there does not seem to be any reason why the seashore resorts should not find the same patronage as for years past. In Newport there is in prospect a prosperous summer, as nearly every villa will be occupied. Many villas have been leased. Mrs. Vanderbilt is expected shortly at the Breakers and Mr. and Mrs. F. Grand d'Hautville are already in their villa. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Clews will open the Rocks about the middle of next month and for part of the summer Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Parsons will be there.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Astor Bristed have leased Lakeside, their Lenox home, to Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Sherrill, and with their daughters, the Misses Symphora and Grace Bristed, will be in Newport for the season. Mrs. Dulaney Howland, who has not been there for two years, has recently leased the Thayer cottage, and Mr. and Mrs. J. Laurence Van Alen have been at Waukegan for a fortnight.

Mrs. Frederic P. Sands and her daughter, Miss Elizabeth Sands, who have been in New York for the winter,

are already in their home in Greenwich place, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver G. Jennings will go to Fairfield, Conn., for the early part of the summer and later will be in Newport. Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont will pass some weeks at her home in Great Neck, L. I., before opening Marble House, her villa in Belle Haven, N. Y. Mrs. W. W. Sherman has opened her villa and Mrs. Louis Lorillard is at her home in Catherine street.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Page, who last summer went to Japan, have decided to take a trip to Southampton, L. I., for the coming season, and will go there next month. Grenville L. Winthrop and the Misses Winthrop are already in Groton place, Lenox, and Mrs. George G. Haven will go to her country place, Sunnycroft, in Lenox, next month.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney are now in Westbury, L. I., and they expect to be in Newport during August. Mr. and Mrs. William Jay Schieffelin are leaving New York this month for Tranquillity Farm, their summer home in Ashville, Me. Mr. and Mrs. George Baker St. George, who have been at the White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., since their marriage, have decided to settle in Tuxedo Park, where they have leased the Verplanck estate.

Mrs. George A. Robbins, Mrs. Alfred Anson and Gen. Horace Porter will go to Bar Harbor next month, and Mr. and Mrs. John Wood Blodgett and Miss Pringle's Crossing, Mass., where they have leased the Sargent estate. Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Hartman are at Ridgeleigh, their place in White Plains, N. Y., and Mr. and Mrs. George B. D. Schieffelin are in Morristown, N. J., and Mr. and Mrs. William B. Duane, Jr., will go to High Lawn House in Lenox, will pass some weeks at Westfield Farm, Lake Mohegan, N. Y. Mrs. William Douglas Sloane will go to Elm Court, Lenox, early next month.

Mr. and Mrs. Le Roy W. Baldwin have taken the Edgar place in Tuxedo Park for the spring and summer. Their daughter, Miss Lucille Baldwin, will be introduced to society next winter. Among those who have arrived at the park for the spring are Mr. and Mrs. Philip B. Weld, Mr. and Mrs. Forest Wickes, Mr. and Mrs. William Stackpole, Mr. and Mrs. William Lawrence Green, Charles R. Sampson and his sister, Miss Gertrude Sampson. Mr. and Mrs. Frederic Foster De Rham, Miss Ruth King, Mr. and Mrs. E. Livingston Burrill, Mr. and Mrs. Frederic Foster Carey, Mr. and Mrs. Kenelm Winslow, Mrs. Charles P. Swan, and the Rev. Dr. and Mrs. George W. Douglas.

Not all of the future war brides are to be wed to men who are joining the ranks at home. There has been added another international engagement to the list. It is that of Miss Lucy Landon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Landon of this city, to Lieut.-Admiral Ralph Speed of the British Army Service Corps. Miss Landon has been for the past two years caring for wounded soldiers in France as a member of the American Red Cross staff of nurses. Her sister, Miss Ruth Landon, joined her in this work last June, and their brother, William G. Landon, is in charge of an American ambulance at Noyon. Another brother, Harold M. Landon, is with the Fifteenth Infantry, New York National Guard.

Formal announcement of the engagement was made known here by Mr. and Mrs. Landon, who are now in Paris. Lieut. Speed is prominent in the American colony at Paris, and during the summer of 1914 he passed part of the season at Bar Harbor, Me., while on a visit to this country. No plans have been announced for the wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Anson Blake Moran of 133 East Sixty-fourth street have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Annette Blake Moran, to R. Selden Rose of Geneva, N. Y. Miss Moran was introduced to society last winter and was a favorite among the debutantes of the season. She is a member of the Junior League.

Mr. Rose was graduated from Yale in 1905, and after spending several years in study in Europe became a member of the faculty of the University of California. Recently he resigned to become a member of the faculty at Yale. No date has been set for the wedding.

The engagement has been announced of Miss Elizabeth Stewart Morris Burrill of 114 East Seventy-ninth street, to Clement Livingston Barnwell, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Morgan Gibbes Barnwell of Tuxedo Park, N. Y. Although no date has been mentioned for the wedding, it is expected that it will take place shortly, as Mr. Barnwell has recently joined the Officers Reserve Corps and will go to Plattsburg. Miss Burrill is a granddaughter of the late Daniel Jackson Stewart of this city, her mother having been before her marriage Miss Elizabeth Stewart.

Mr. Barnwell is a member of families who have been prominent in New York for many generations. His mother was Miss Elizabeth Marie. He was graduated from Harvard in 1910 and studied architecture at the Beaux Arts in Paris, where he remained until the outbreak of the war. He is a member of the Union, Tuxedo, Harvard and St. Anthony clubs.

Announcement has been made of the engagement of Miss Sylvia Johnson Curtis, daughter of the late Thomas E. H. Curtis of Plimfield, N. J., to Gordon W. White, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Winslow White of Flushing, L. I. Mr. White is known as one of the champion golfers of the East. No date has been set for the wedding.

An engagement announced in Newburgh, N. Y., of interest in Albany and this city was that of Miss Estella Odell, only daughter of ex-Gov. Benjamin B. Odell, to J. Townsend Casady, son of Mr. and Mrs. William F. Casady of Newburgh. Miss Odell was introduced to society three years ago and has been prominently identified with social life at the State capital since her father's administration. She is vice-president of the Junior Welfare League of Newburgh and like her father she has displayed a keen interest in matters of a political nature and is a member of the Junior Suffrage Club.

Added to the list of engagements is that of Miss Frances Montagu Ward,

daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Montagu Ward of 157 East Eighty-first street, to Leonard Cox, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenyon J. Cox. Mrs. Ward came out in society three years ago. Mr. Cox was graduated from Princeton in 1915, is a grandson of the late Jacob D. Cox, at one time Governor of Ohio and Secretary of the Interior under President Grant. He is a member of the Officers Reserve Corps and the wedding will probably take place shortly.

An engagement made known in Washington, D. C., last week was that announced by Rear Admiral Robert E. Peary, U. S. N., and Mrs. Peary of their daughter, Miss Marie, to Edward Peary, son of Edward Stafford, a son of Justice Wendell P. Stafford of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia.

Miss Peary, who has been known since her childhood as the "Snow Baby," her birth having occurred within the Arctic Circle during one of her father's voyages of exploration, has spent the greater part of her life in Washington. Mr. Stafford was graduated from Dartmouth and is an Assistant Corporation Counsel. It is expected that the wedding will take place soon, as Mr. Stafford is a candidate for a commission in the Officers Reserve Corps.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederic Clark Sayles of Irvington on Hudson, formerly of Providence, R. I., have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Helen Kingman Sayles to Henry Cape, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Cape of this city.

The engagement was recently announced of Miss Virginia R. Duane, daughter of Arthur Duane of this city and New Milford, Conn., to Douglas Cole of this city. Miss Duane has

Gertrude Ray Hamilton to Paul McCulloch, son of James W. McCulloch and the late Mrs. Jane Levensworth McCulloch of this city and Orange, N. J. Miss Hamilton's father was the late Schuyler Hamilton, and she is a direct descendant of Alexander Hamilton. With her sister, Miss Violet Hamilton, she was introduced to society a few years ago. The wedding will take place shortly.

The engagement has been announced of Miss Noemi Gilbert Townsend, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Biles Townsend of 299 Lexington avenue, to Leslie W. Devereux, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas E. Devereux of Utica, N. Y. Miss Townsend made her debut

Adoo. It will be as simple as possible, with a small party of attendants for the bride, including her sister, Mrs. Taber Martin of Chestnut Hill, Pa.; Miss Mary McAdoo of New York, a cousin, and Miss Ethel Borden Harriman, daughter of Mrs. J. Borden Harriman.

Baron Renaud d'Enghien Sternberg, a secretary of the Russian Embassy, will act as best man and the ushers will be Robert H. and William Gibbs McAdoo, Jr., brothers of the bride; Giuseppe Brambilla, Counselor of the Italian Embassy, and Jules C. F. Bond, Third Secretary of the French Embassy.

Mr. de Mohrenschildt and his bride will be for the greater part of the summer at Edgemoor, Md., after their return from their wedding trip.

Miss Josephine B. Wells, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Brooks H. Wells, will be married to John Scott Browning, Jr., of this city on Wednesday after-

noon at 4 o'clock in St. Bartholomew's Church. The ceremony will be followed by a small reception for relatives of the bride and bridegroom at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Wells, 223 Madison avenue.

Miss Dorothy Pomeroy Wells will be her sister's maid of honor, and the other attendants will include Mrs. Talbot J. Taylor, Jr., Mrs. George Watson Hall Smith, Miss Cary Hackett and Miss Rita Baker. Two little cousins of the bride, the Misses Louise Wells Curtis and Elizabeth Minter Wells, will act as flower girls.

Donald W. Lamb, Jr., will act as best man, and the ushers will be Frederick H. Coudert, Jr., Lawrence Phillips, J. Berry Underhill, Jr., E. Hamilton Campbell, Paul Hyde Bonner, Francis T. Henderson, Francis M. Simonds, Jr., and Robert King Munroe.

In All Angels Church, West End avenue and Eighty-third street, on Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock will be celebrated the wedding of Miss Retta Clark Olson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Edward Olson, to Leicester Sterling Pettit, second son of Franklin Pettit of this city. The bride, who will be given away by her father, will have as her bridesmaid, as her matron of honor, and the other attendants will be the Misses Sally Jean Pettit, sister of the bridegroom; Mary C. Young of New York, Lucile Price of Brooklyn, Beatrice Eno Werhous of Nyack, Margaret Erskine Waterman of California, and Ruth Hutchinson of Augusta, Ga. The Misses Eleanor and Katherine Moxes, nieces of the bride, will be flower girls.

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END OF SEASON BARREN IN NEW MUSIC OF VALUE

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THE season of music in this city is about to come to its end. Hereafter those whose appetite for good music can never be entirely satisfied will seek their pleasure at such entertainments as the forthcoming Columbia University opera performances and festivals in various places. Among the latter the Bach festival at Bethlehem offers special attractions, including not only infrequently heard works of Bach and the singing of a particularly well trained chorus, but beautiful surroundings and the delightful atmosphere of Lehigh University. Bethlehem is easily reached, and many residents of this city and Philadelphia are always seen at the concerts.

The natural inclination of a music reviewer at this time is to study the records of the season now closing. But this year such study is far from encouraging. The cold truth is that it offers one nothing to say except that the season was pitifully barren in the production of new music of value.

On the other hand it was crowded with concerts and recitals, with debuts and reappearances. Richard Aldrich in last Sunday's Times published figures, depressing, even deplorable figures, which shall not be repeated here. How many pianists were heard? How many violinists? How many, oh, how many so-called singers? No matter. There were more than a hundred of the latter and nearly a hundred of the former.

In all the lists how many of the newly discovered talents turned out to be highly promising? The inevitable answer is that mediocrity again proved to be in the ascendant. It cannot be otherwise. It probably never will be otherwise. At this time the theory of musical managers is that a mediocrity can be forced upon the public as a genius by the unsparring use of ingenious advertising, and this theory too often finds justification.

Once accepted as a musician of sterling merit, the newcomer is not

accomplished and much sorrow prevented. But this cannot be. So on they all come, pianists, violinists, cellists and singers, swarming upon waves of them, the good, the indifferent and the bad, and audiences are assembled by the methods familiar to the inner world of music to witness their struggles. There must be not less than a quarter of a million vocal students in this country. How many of them can ever attain the summit of their ambitions? How many Geraldine Farrars, Louise Homers and Clarence Whitehills are there among them?

Kind reader, have you ever seen the photographs of student orchestras and the semi-professional orchestras of small cities which are published from time to time in the musical papers? Have you observed the army of young women players of violin and cello? How many Maud Powsells do you think will emerge from their ranks? And from among the young men how many Albert Senners?

But in the instrumental department the piano reigns supreme. All over the country industrious youths of both sexes are hard at work, and yet how small is the harvest. We have not yet produced a Hofmann or a Paderewski. We have John Powell and we are glad. In the season just closing at least two new pianists attracted more than passing attention, and of these one seems likely to reach public recognition with comparative swift-

ness. Michaëla Levitzki is this boy's name. New York musicians know him as well already, and without doubt he will not be long in making his way in other cities. Boguslawski of Kansas City is the other, and he left some uncertainty behind him when he played here. His programme did not force him to demonstrate the possession of the high interpretative powers, and so we cannot be sure that he has them. His skill as a pianist of genuinely musical quality was proved. Levitzki promises to be a great artist. His progress will be watched with interest.

Another young pianist aroused considerable interest. This was Hovita Benard, the Chilean. But her time is not yet ripe. Others gave superficial pleasure, and many gave nothing but pain. One new singer commanded more praise than she received. Some of the juvenile phrase jugglers who are the scourge of the nation of young men, and he left some uncertainty behind him when he played here. His programme did not force him to demonstrate the possession of the high interpretative powers, and so we cannot be sure that he has them. His skill as a pianist of genuinely musical quality was proved. Levitzki promises to be a great artist. His progress will be watched with interest.

However, the correctness of any critical judgment is a matter of infinitesimal importance. No real artist will ultimately fail to attain the position due to his or her abilities. It may be a slow progress in some cases and a speedy one in others, but the slow ones are generally the more lasting. Since it is the custom of managers to quote laudatory criticism in their advertisements in the hope of prejudicing audiences in favor of the musician, it so happens that sometimes comment has a passing usefulness to them. In the long run, of course, the only value of criticism lies in its stimulation of public thought.

One fact bearing on criticism needs to be emphasized. A student in a university where the present writer lectured once expressed his astonishment at the speaker's views on criticism. He declared that he had always supposed that it meant fault finding. This is a belief entertained by many who do not read criticism.

In so far as New York is concerned precisely the opposite is the case. The present writer after an experience of many years is glad to testify that the attitude of his confreres, especially the older and more practical among them, is that of searchers after merit. There is more joy among them over one talent discovered than over fifty failures pointed out.

When, therefore, they arrive at the end of such a prolific season as the past one with the admission that the percentage of new real talent has been lamentably small, you may be certain that it is not because they have not searched for it with lanterns.

In concluding mention should be made of a new orchestra conductor. Nothing need be said as to what has already been said about the abilities displayed by Oseip Gabrieliwitsch. But once again let us utter a lamentation that local doors are closed against him. We do not need any more orchestras, but we could very easily make improvements in the department of conducting.

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But in the instrumental department the piano reigns supreme. All over the country industrious youths of both sexes are hard at work, and yet how small is the harvest. We have not yet produced a Hofmann or a Paderewski. We have John Powell and we are glad. In the season just closing at least two new pianists attracted more than passing attention, and of these one seems likely to reach public recognition with comparative swift-

ness. Michaëla Levitzki is this boy's name. New York musicians know him as well already, and without doubt he will not be long in making his way in other cities. Boguslawski of Kansas City is the other, and he left some uncertainty behind him when he played here. His programme did not force him to demonstrate the possession of the high interpretative powers, and so we cannot be sure that he has them. His skill as a pianist of genuinely musical quality was proved. Levitzki promises to be a great artist. His progress will be watched with interest.

Another young pianist aroused considerable interest. This was Hovita Benard, the Chilean. But her time is not yet ripe. Others gave superficial pleasure, and many gave nothing but pain. One new singer commanded more praise than she received. Some of the juvenile phrase jugglers who are the scourge of the nation of young men, and he left some uncertainty behind him when he played here. His programme did not force him to demonstrate the possession of the high interpretative powers, and so we cannot be sure that he has them. His skill as a pianist of genuinely musical quality was proved. Levitzki promises to be a great artist. His progress will be watched with interest.

However, the correctness of any critical judgment is a matter of infinitesimal importance. No real artist will ultimately fail to attain the position due to his or her abilities. It may be a slow progress in some cases and a speedy one in others, but the slow ones are generally the more lasting. Since it is the custom of managers to quote laudatory criticism in their advertisements in the hope of prejudicing audiences in favor of the musician, it so happens that sometimes comment has a passing usefulness to them. In the long run, of course, the only value of criticism lies in its stimulation of public thought.

One fact bearing on criticism needs to be emphasized. A student in a university where the present writer lectured once expressed his astonishment at the speaker's views on criticism. He declared that he had always supposed that it meant fault